

field offered an instance), thereby bringing into question the correctness of the generally received views of the superposition of the different geological formations.

A memoir was read upon *Mæchidius*, MacL., a genus of *Lamellicorn* beetles, with descriptions and figures of some new genera belonging to the same tribe, by J. O. Westwood, F.L.S.

From a review of the characters of the genus *Mæchidius* Mr. Westwood refers it to the family *Melolonthidæ*, and describes the following new species.

Mæchidius Hopianus, W. *M. oblongus, scaber, nigricans, opacus, setulis luteis (præsertim thorace) subcinereus; prothoracis angulis posticis valde emarginatis.* Long. corp. lin. $5\frac{1}{2}$. [*Hab.* New Holland? Mus. Hope.

Mæchidius Mellianus, W. *M. augustior nigricans, capite anticè vix emarginato, prothoracis lateribus rotundatis, angulis posticis extus prominentibus, tibiis anticis obtusè tridentatis.* Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{1}{2}$. [*Hab.* New Holland. Mus. Melly.

Mæchidius Macleaynus, W. *M. piceus, nitidus, punctatus, longius setosus, elytris oblongo-ovatis depressis, thorace lateribus rotundatis, angulis posticis acutis, tibiis anticis acute 3-dentatis.* Long. corp. lin. 5. [*Hab.* New Holland. Mus. Westwood.

Mæchidius Raddonianus, W. *M. piceus, punctatus, brevissimè setosus, capitis margine antico profundè et acutè emarginato, thoracis lateribus rotundatis, angulis posticis acutis.* Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{1}{2}$. [*Hab.* Port Philip, Australia. Mus. Raddon.

Mæchidius rufus, (Hope MSS.). *Rufo-castaneus, nitidus, punctatus, tenuè setosus, capite lato, marginibus elevatis, tibiis anticis obtusè bidentatis, femoribus posticis in medio dilatatis articuloque basali tarsorum posteriorum longè penicillato.* Long. corp. lin. $2\frac{1}{2}$. [*Hab.* Port Essington, Australasia. Mus. Hope.

CRYPTOGENIUS, W. (Gen. nov. ad fam. Trogidarum pertinens.) *Corpus supra planum, rugosum, setosum, prothorace subrotundato, elytris angustiori, pedibus longis, gracilibus, serrulatis. Clypeus inferus. Labrum maximum, os (insecto quiescenti) omnino obtegens. Mentum lateribus angulatis, anticè profundè et acutè emarginatum. Antennæ 10-articulatæ.*

CRYPTOGENIUS Miersianus, W. *Cr. nigricans, subnitidus, luteo-setosus, capite et prothorace circulis concentricis confluentibus, sculpturatis, elytris striis numerosis tenuè impressis, singulo tuberculis triplici serie ordinatis.* Long. corp. lin. $3\frac{1}{2}$. [*Hab.* South America. D. Miers.

ANAIDES, W. (Gen. nov. ad fam. Trogidarum pertinens.) *Corpus supra planum, rugosum, setosum, anticè angustius, prothorace in medio longitudinaliter impresso; posticè latiori. Caput subovale. Labrum exsertum, transversum, parùm emarginatum. Mandibulæ porrectæ, apice curvatæ, acutæ. Maxillæ elongatæ, lobo apicali longo, setoso. Mentum oblongum, lateribus parùm rotundatis, margine antico ferè recto. Pedes longiusculi, serrati. Antennæ 10-articulatæ.*

- ANAIDES fossulatus, W. *A. nigro-fuscus, subnitidus, punctulatus, setosus, antennarum clavâ pallidiori, tibiis anticis dentibus tribus armatis.* Long. corp. lin. $3\frac{1}{2}$. [*Hab.* South America. Mus. Hope.]
- SILPHODES, W. (Gen. nov. ad fam. Geotrupidarum pertinens.) *Corpus ovatum, subconvexum, marginibus reflexis. Labrum porrectum, breve, in medio emarginatum. Mandibulæ robustæ, corneæ, margine externo valdè rotundato, apice in dentibus duobus minutis declivibus producto. Maxillæ lobo externo magno, rotundato. Mentum subquadratum, lateribus rotundatis. Pedes longi, graciles, unguibus inæqualibus et irregularibus.*
- SILPHODES Sumatrensis, W. *S. piceo-castaneus, capite latiori, elytris striato-punctatis, margine longe-setoso.* Long. corp. lin. $3\frac{1}{2}$. [*Hab.* Sumatra. Sir S. Raffles.]
- SILPHODES Philippinensis, W. *S. piceo-castaneus, capite thoraceque magis rufescentibus, elytris irregulariter valdè punctatis, striâ suturali alterisque 8 longitudinalibus (per paria dispositis) e punctis confluentibus formatis.* Long. corp. lin. $4\frac{1}{2}$ -6. [*Hab.* Philippine Isles. Mr. Cuming.]
- SILPHODES Gambiensis, W. *S. castaneo-fuscus, prothoracis et elytrorum marginibus suturæque rufescentibus; elytris sub lente tenuissime punctatis striisque tribus è punctis majoribus in singulo elytro.* Long. corp. lin. 6. [*Hab.* Gambia and Senegal. Mr. Tebbs. Mus. Brit.]

October 4th.—W. W. Saunders, Esq., F.L.S., President, in the Chair.

Mr. Westwood exhibited some beautiful insects from the Gold Coast, Africa, and Port Philip, Australia, from the collection of Mr. Raddon, including a new species of *Goliathus* (*Eudicella ignita*, W.), some fine *Cerambycidae*, &c. Also a new and singular genus of large size allied to *Cicada*, from New Holland, from the collection of Mr. Curtis, and which that gentleman proposed to name *Cystosoma Saundersii*. Also a common house-spider, to the hind extremity of the cephalothorax of which remained attached the exuvium of the dorsum of the former cephalothorax, although it had remained alive in that state several days. He also exhibited a drawing of a new modification of the pad-like cushion on the under-side of the basal joints of the fore tarsi of a new species of *Cicindelidæ*, from the Mauritius (constituting a new and distinct subgenus), in which the whole of the under-side of the limb was thickly clothed with clavate setæ, visible to the naked eye.

The following memoirs were read:—

Notices of the cannibal habits of various caterpillars. By G. A. Thrupp, Esq.

Additional observations upon, and descriptions of new species belonging to the genera *Cryptodus*, *Mæchidius*, and *Parastasia*. By J. O. Westwood, the substance of which is incorporated in the abstract of the proceedings of the meetings of July 5th, and September 6th, 1841.